

ETABALLIA DUBIA (LEGUMINOSAE), A NEW COMBINATION

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For some time I have suspected that Etaballia guianensis Benth. and Hecastophyllum dubium H.B.K. might be synonymous, and examination of the types has confirmed that suspicion. Because the specific epithet dubium has priority, a new combination is needed, and the specific name becomes Etaballia dubia (H.B.K.) Rudd.

Hecastophyllum dubium H.B.K., published in 1824, was based on a fruiting specimen gathered by Humboldt and Bonpland in Venezuela. It was included by De Candolle in his Prodromus (2: 420. 1825), but without notation of a specimen's having been seen. Bentham, in his "Synopsis of the Dalbergieae" (Jour. Linn. Soc. Bot. 4, suppl.: [1]-134. 1860) made no mention of the species, nor did Pittier in any of his numerous publications dealing with the flora of Venezuela (e. g. Bol. Tecn. M. A. C. Serv. Bot. 5. 1944; Cat. Fl. Venez. 1. 1945).

Etaballia Benth. and E. guianensis Benth. were described as a new genus and species in 1840, based on flowering material collected by Robert Schomburgk in British Guiana, nos. 169 and 706. A "second species, E. macrophylla, from the island of St Vincent" was cited but later (Hook. Icon. 453, 454. 1842) was "suppressed, having originated in a mistake." It "proved to be a cultivated specimen of Inocarpus edulis" [I. fagiferus (Parkins.) Fosberg] (Jour. Linn. Soc. Bot. 6: 146. 1862). Etaballia was assigned to the "Tribe Bauhiniae" of the "Suborder Caesalpiniae" and was so maintained by Bentham until 1865 when he reduced Etaballia to Inocarpus Forst., a genus of tropical Asia and the Pacific Islands (in Bentham & Hooker, Gen. Pl. 1: 552). Inocarpus was put as a "genus anomalum" at the end of the "Tribe Dalbergieae" in the "Subordo I. Papilionaceae." Taubert (in Engler & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. 3, 3: 348. 1894) followed Bentham, but Dalla Torre & Harms (Gen. Siphon. 241. 1900-1907) gave Etaballia independent status in the Dalbergieae. Ducke, in "As Leguminosae da Amazonia Brasileira" (Bol. Tecn. I. A. N. no 18: 207. 1949), cited Etaballia as a monotypic genus of the Dalbergieae. Kuhlmann (Lilloa 17: 57-60. 1949), after a systematic and morphologic study, concluded that Etaballia was a possible intermediate between the "Papilionatae" and the "Mimosoideae." In more recent treatments, Melchior (in Engler, Syllabus de Pflanzenfamilien 2. 1964) has made no mention of Etaballia or Inocarpus, and Hutchinson (Gen. Fl. Pl. 1: 316. 1964) has followed Bentham's reduction of Etaballia to Inocarpus but has placed the combined genus in the "Tribe Cadiaceae" of the "Fabaceae."

Etaballia is, indeed, anomalous. The fruit has been compared with that of Moutouchi suberosa Aubl. [Pterocarpus officinalis Jacq.], which it does resemble very closely. The unifoliolate leaves resemble those of Dalbergia spp. The long, ribbon-like, bright yellow petals have been characterized as resembling those of Hamamelis, as well as those of leguminous genera such as Inocarpus, Myroxylon, Riedeliella, and Bauhinia. Comprehensive and

comparative studies of Etaballia and the putative related genera, utilizing techniques of anatomy, cytology, palynology, and chemistry, are needed to elucidate the problem. However, although the correct placement remains uncertain, I believe that Etaballia should be maintained as a separate genus. Following is a brief résumé of its single species, E. dubia.

ETABALLIA DUBIA (H.B.K.) Rudd, comb. nov.

Hecastophyllum dubium H.B.K. Nov. Gen. & Sp. Pl. 6: 388. 1824.

Type: Humboldt & Bonpland, Caicara, Bolívar, Venezuela (P).

Etaballia guianensis Benth. Jour. Bot. Hooker 2: 99. 1840;

Hook. Icones 453, 454. 1842. Lectotype: Robert Schomburgk 169, Essequibo R., British Guiana (K). Syntype: Robert Schomburgk 706 (K). Isosyntypes: NY, US.

Tree, to ca 30 m tall; young stems glabrous, unarmed; leaves unifoliolate; leaflets ovate to ovate-oblong, ca 3-15 cm long, 2-7.5 cm wide, acute to acuminate, rounded or subcordate at the base, glabrous above, glabrous or nearly so below; immature inflorescence cone-like, later catkin-like; flowers 10-15 mm long; calyx tubular, pubescent, 3-3.5 mm long with 5 deltoid lobes ca 0.5 mm long; petals yellow to orange, 5, rarely 6, linear, subequal, 10-15 mm long, 1 mm wide, glabrous; stamens 10, rarely 11, the filaments alternately long and short, united at the lower half, separate above, the anthers uniform, minute, subspherical, dorsifixed, dehiscing laterally; ovary pubescent, 1-3-ovulate, the style about 1 mm long, glabrous, the stigma truncate; fruit pubescent, glabrescent, subreniform or sublunate, laterally compressed, longitudinally rugose, indehiscent, commonly 1-seeded.

GUYANA (British Guiana): Kartabo Pt., Mazaruni R., Sandwith 1537 (NY). Mazaruni R., Takutu Cr. to Puruni R., For. Dept. B. G. 4879 Fanshawe 2143 (NY, US). Mazaruni R., Shiparimaina Falls, For. Dept. B. G. 5627, Fanshawe 2828 (NY, US). Bartica, For. Dept. B. G. 6879, Fanshawe 3350 (NY, US).

VENEZUELA: Guarico: Pto. de Parmana, Tamayo 4016 (NY, US). Apure: Pto. Páez, Velez 2639 (US). Bolívar: Pto. Ordaz, Aristeguita 5874 (US, VEN). Amazonas: Pto. Ayacucho, Ll. Williams 13048 (US); Holt & Blake 814 (NY, US). Alto Río Orinoco, Caño Yapacana, Maguire & Wurdack 34589 (NY, US). Río Ventuari, near Los Carmelitos, Cowan & Wurdack 31582 (NY, US).

BRAZIL: Rio Branco: Caracarahy, J. G. Kuhlmann [RB] 2799 (US) Froes 23032 (NY). Igarapé Agua Boa, Rio Mucajaí, France, Forero, Pena, & Ramos 4048 (NY, US). Amazonas: Igarapé Jandiatuba, Froes 24038 (NY, US). Humayta, near Livramento, Krukoff 6614 (US). Humayta, near Tres Casas, Krukoff 6215 (US). Para: Rio Takutu, opp. St. Ignatius Mission, Mather s. n. (NY). Fordlandia, Black 48-2320 (NY, US). Rio Faro, Ducke [MG] 15916 (US). Rio Xingu, Altamira, Ducke [MG] 16616 (US). Rio Xingu, Victoria, Ducke [MG] 16588 (US). Oriximina, Ducke [MG] 15708 (US). Rio Tapajoz, Boburé, Ducke [MG] 16773 (US). Villa Braga, Ducke [MG] 16900 (US).

LOCAL NAMES: Brasil, sangrito (Venezuela); mututi, poyu (Brazil).

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Fig. 1 - *Etaballia guianensis* Benth. Copy of plates 453, 454.  
 Hooker's *Icones Plantarum*. 1842. (Drawing by J. D. Hooker)